



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
**730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476**  
**Phone: 781-316-3000**

**webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us**

## **TAC Minutes 11/10/2010**

### **Town of Arlington**

#### **Transportation Advisory Committee**

Minutes of 11/10/10, 7:15 pm to 10:00 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener and Elisabeth Carr-Jones.

**Members and Associates Present:** Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Jonathan Janik, Andy Machado, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Mike Rademacher, Corey Rateau, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, Richard Turcotte, Laura Wiener;

**Missing Members and Associates:** Jean Clark, Jessica French, Steve Kurland, John Lentz

**Visitors Present:** None

- Public Comments. None.
- Administration.
  - Minutes of 10/13/10 were approved unanimously with one revision.
  - Minutes of 10/27/10 special meeting were approved unanimously with one revision.
  - Correspondence and other handouts were reviewed.
- Town Issues and Activities. Mike reported that he and Laura had examined the area in front of the Capitol block on Mass Ave for parking striping. Although 5 small parking spaces are possible, 4 larger spaces may be preferable. Mike announced that the Public Works Department is consolidating all their administrative operations into their 51 Grove Street location. Corey reported that the Police Department has instituted an online or phone hotline system for overnight parking waivers, with a 4 nights per year maximum. Corey reported that he was working on the Brackett School crosswalk signs, Mass/Water/Spengler crosswalk crash data, and signs for the Dallin School. Corey announced that he had prepared a pedestrian safety letter for the schools. The letter will be distributed through administrative channels at the individual schools.
- Herbert/Magnolia. Howard presented his study on safety concerns at the crosswalk to the Magnolia Field and playground on Herbert Road and Magnolia Street. After discussion of the potential immediate and long-term improvements, TAC voted unanimously to recommend the following immediate actions:
  - Installation of “No Parking Here to Corner” signs on the northeast side of Herbert Road 20 feet before and after Magnolia Street to provide increased visibility for the crosswalk.
  - Installation of pedestrian warning signs at the crosswalk on each approach of Herbert Road—MUTCD W11-2 with W16-7P plaque (downward pointing arrow).

TAC also voted unanimously to include the possible long-term action of installing a raised crosswalk—to provide better visibility of the pedestrian crossing and slow traffic—in the report, if further improvements are appropriate. Howard will prepare final report for the Board of Selectmen.

- Traffic Calming Guidelines. Howard presented the working group’s revised draft of the Traffic Calming Policy document.

TAC discussed whether the document would be used as the Town's traffic calming policy or as a set of guidelines for TAC's recommendations to the Board of Selectmen. After discussion, which included additional revisions to the document, TAC voted the following procedure:

- Incorporate the specific revisions from this meeting into the document for TAC vote. Circulate the voted document as "Draft Traffic Calming Guidelines" for review and comment to Chief of Police, Town Manager, Town Counsel and other appropriate Town Officials. Begin testing the guidelines internally while the document is under review.

Howard will incorporate latest revisions and bring final draft for a vote at the December meeting.

- Oakland/Gray. Elisabeth identified problems with intersection: very wide opening on Gray St., significant grade changes, Ottoson pedestrian traffic, Gray St. stop sign not well located. Recommendations for short term, voted unanimously:
  - Move Gray St stop sign, possibly replace with larger more visible sign
  - Install sign reading "stop ahead" on Gray.
  - Remove stop sign on left side of Gray.

Possible longer term recommendations: curb extensions on Gray St, 4-way stop, adding crosswalks & sidewalk. Mike thought this could possibly happen next summer. Short term recs. don't need Selectmen's approval since they have been previously voted.

- Elementary Schools.
  - Dallin—no parking signs need to be supplemented with "when school is in session" sign. Laura will check TAC minutes for status of this request.
  - Hardy—Brooks/Chandler needs crosswalk and stop sign. Establishing official school zone at Hardy also needed. Jonathan and Scott will develop proposal for January.
- 30-50 Mill St. Working Group (WG) reviewed revised Traffic Impact Study. Still a few unresolved issues. Group will meet next week with developer's traffic engineer and develop recommendations for 11/22 ARB meeting. WG told ARB that it did not want to make a recommendation regarding parking, but did not think the parking requirement was too high. Mike noted that the Fire Chief may request an Opticom system at Summer and Mill and Jason and Mill as part of the mitigation.
- New Thompson School. Jeff described the two options being considered. WG made its recommendation that the better option for transportation safety is to rebuild existing site. TAC role is over for now.
- CLAMP Grant (Clean Air and Mobility Program). Working Group has formed and met, putting together an RFP for design services.
- Mass. Ave.—25% Design Plans were resubmitted. Highway Division will hold a Public Hearing, probably in late winter.
- Safe Routes to Schools. Mass. Rides has offered to speak to town about creating a town-wide Safe Routes group that would bring together the individual coordinators. A new training is being offered by Mass. Rides. TAC members will pass info on to school coordinators. Jeff will contact Wallis Reamer, Assistant Superintendent.
- Brooks and Lake. FST recommended adding green time to Lake Street. Mike will talk to Republic about making minor adjustments to signal timing.
- Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.

Meeting Materials:

- Ed's meeting packet: Agenda, 11/10/10; Email from Paul Schlietman to Marie Krepelka et al Re: Letter to the Board of Selectmen—U Turns in Arlington Center, dated October 14, 2010; Memo to Ed Starr from Marie Krepelka Re Request: Traffic Calming on Bates Road, dated September 23, 2010; Memo to Board of Selectmen from Laura Wiener Re. Bates Road, request for traffic calming, dated September 23, 2010; Letter to Frederick Ryan, Police Chief from Frank Assortato, Re. Safety Recommendations to be Implemented to Control Vehicular Traffic at the Main Branch of the Arlington Town Library, dated September 10, 2010; Active/Planned TAC Projects and Working Groups, dated 11/10/10; BoS/ARB Project Status, dated 11/10/10; Draft Actions from 10/13 TAC Meeting; Status of Outstanding Actions, dated 11/10/10; 2011 Meeting Dates for the Transportation Advisory Committee; Memo from TAC Working Group to Arlington Redevelopment Board, Re. Review of Proposed 30-50 Mill Street Project Traffic Impact and Access Study, dated October 22, 2010; Thompson Rebuild: Transportation Evaluation.
- Oakland Avenue, Gray Street & Cliff Street Intersection, November 10, 2010.
- Memo To TAC From Working Group Re. Traffic Calming Policy, November 10, 2010
- Minutes of 10/13/10
- Minutes of Special Meeting of 10/27/10